

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 SANTIA 03154 042239Z

73

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 AID-20 IGA-02 COME-00 EB-11 FRB-02 TRSE-00

XMB-07 OPIC-12 CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 INT-08

AGR-20 IO-14 DRC-01 (ISO) W
----- 026156

P 042142Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8839

S E C R E T SANTIAGO 3154

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CI

SUBJECT: PINOCHET VIEWS

1. SUMMARY: JUNTA PRESIDENT PINOCHET IN OPTIMISTIC MOOD
RE CHILEAN ECONOMY; HOPES FOR INCREASED U.S. MILITARY ASSISTANCE
INCLUDING MORE FMS CREDIT; DEFENDS GOC HUMAN RIGHTS RECORD,
EXPRESSING DETERMINATION TO PUNISH THOSE GUILTY OF ABUSES SUCH
AS TORTURE; AND STATES FORMULA APPLIED TO EX-FONMIN CLODOMIRO
ALMEYDA AS RESULT OF RABASANVISIT, LOOKING TOWARD DEPARTURE FROM
COUNTRY IF ACQUITTED IN TRIAL, EQUALLY APPLICABLE TO ORLANDO
LETELIER AND OTHER DEFENDANTS. END SUMMARY

2. I MADE SEPARATE CALLS ON THE FOUR MEMBERS OF THE GOVERNMENT
JUNTA PRIOR TO DEPARTURE FOR WASHINGTON CONSULTATION. HIGHLIGHTS
OF MEETING WITH PRESIDENT PINOCHET JUNE 3 FOLLOW:

3. THE ECONOMY. PINOCHET EXUDED SATISFACTION AND OPTIMISM
ABOUT PRODUCTION RECOVERY IN MINES, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRY.
WITH REGARD TO MINING, HE NOTED THAT PRODUCTION IN STATE COPPER
MINES UP ONE-THIRD LAST MONTH OVER SAME MONTH YEAR AGO.
EXPECTATION IS FOR PRODUCTION OF 740 THOUSAND TONS OF COPPER

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 SANTIA 03154 042239Z

FROM "GRAN MINERIA" IN 1974, WHICH SHOULD GIVE TOTAL CHILEAN

PRODUCTION OF OVER ONE MILLION TONS. HE ACKNOWLEDGED INFLATION CONTINUES AND IS DIFFICULT TO CONTROL. ON OTHER HAND, NOTED THAT IN FIRST YEAR AFTER MILITARY TAKEOVER, BRAZIL HAD EXPERIENCED 600 PC INFLATION. GIVEN THE INHERITED DISASTER, HE THOUGHT PROGRAM TO CONTROL INFLATION WAS MAKING PROGRESS AND STILL MORE COULD BE DONE.

4. PINOCHET SAID NEW FOREIGN INVESTMENT IS NEEDED TO CREATE EMPLOYMENT, ALTHOUGH HE RECOGNIZED THAT SUCH INVESTMENT CAN ADD FUEL TO INFLATION. HE NOTED THAT IMPORTANT JAPANESE AND SPANISH INVESTMENTS ARE UNDER CONSIDERATION BUT THAT U.S. INVESTORS ARE HOLDING OFF, APPARENTLY AWAITING PROMULGATION OF NEW INVESTMENT CODE. HE PROMISED CODE WOULD BE APPROVED SOON. IN RESPONSE MY REFERENCE TO COPPER NEGOTIATIONS, HE SIMPLY CONFIRMED THEY ARE CONTINUING.

5. U.S. ASSISTANCE. I MENTIONED THAT WE HOPED TO BE HELPFUL WITH PROGRAMS IN AGRICULTURE AND NUTRITION AND HOPED BE ABLE MAKE SOME FOODSTUFFS AVAILABLE IN RESPONSE GOC REQUEST. PINOCHET SAID THAT WOULD BE VERY MUCH APPRECIATED. I MENTIONED THAT WE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO BE HELPFUL IN SOME AREAS IN MILITARY ASSISTANCE, AND HOPE THIS CAN CONTINUE. PINOCHET ACKNOWLEDGED THIS BUT OBSERVED WITH A SMILE THAT NOT A SINGLE CARTRIDGE HAD YET BEEN RECEIVED FROM THE USG. HE SPECIFICALLY REQUESTED THAT AN EFFORT BE MADE TO SEE WHETHER OUR FY 1974 FMS CREDIT FOR CHILE COULD BE INCREASED. I RESPONDED THAT HE WOULD UNDERSTAND THE DIFFICULTY OF THIS GIVEN EXISTING FUNDING LIMITATIONS. PINOCHET SAID HE UNDERSTOOD BUT HOPED SOMETHING MIGHT BE POSSIBLE SINCE A NUMBER OF HEMISPHERE COUNTRIES DO NOT REQUIRE FMS CREDITS AND ADDITIONAL CREDITS WOULD BE VERY HELPFUL TO CHILE.

6. HUMAN RIGHTS. I NOTED THAT HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS CONTINUE TO BE A PROBLEM. PINOCHET INTERRUPTED TO SAY THAT GOC IS A CHRISTIAN GOVERNMENT WHICH, UNLIKE COMMUNIST REGIMES, HAS AUTHENTIC RESPECT FOR THE HUMAN PERSON. HE INSISTED HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES WERE CONFINED TO THE FIRST MONTHS FOLLOWING THE COUP AND COULD BE ATTRIBUTED TO THE NATURAL HUMAN PASSIONS OF THOSE WHO HAD BEEN THE INTENDED VICTIMS OF THE PREVIOUS REGIME. IN THIS REGARD HE ASKED RHETORICALLY HOW MANY OF THOSE NOW CONCERNED ABOUT HUMAN RIGHTS IN CHILE WOULD HAVE SHOWN THE SAME CONCERN

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 SANTIA 03154 042239Z

IF HE AND HIS MILITARY COLLEAGUES HAD BEEN THE VICTIMS, ACCORDING TO PLAN, OF THE MARXIST AUTHORITIES. HE ASSURED ME THAT ABUSES WHICH MAY HAVE TAKEN PLACE IN THE FIRST MONTHS HAVE NOW ENDED. HE RECOGNIZED THAT ISOLATED INCIDENTS OF ABUSES MIGHT STILL OCCUR BECAUSE PEOPLE "ARE NOT PERFECT" BUT EXPRESSED FULL DETERMINATION TO BRING TO BOOK ANY ONE FOUND RESPONSIBLE.

7. PINOCHET NOTED THAT PERSONS NOW UNDER DETENTION IN CHILE,

WHO ARE THE PRIMARY SOURCES OF ALLEGATIONS ABOUT HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS, ARE THEMSELVES "NO ANGELS" AND HAVE THEIR OWN REASONS FOR MAKING ALLEGATIONS.

8. PINOCHET EXPRESSED SOME ANNOYANCE WITH ALLEGATIONS THAT GOC IS A RIGHTIST GOVERNMENT. HE SAID IT IS NOT. HE ASSERTED THAT NO RIGHTIST GOVERNMENT WOULD SHOW THE CONCERN FOR THE STANDARD OF LIVING OF THE POOR, THE PLIGHT OF THE SLUM DWELLERS, THE PROBLEM OF UNEMPLOYMENT, WHICH THIS GOVERNMENT HAS SHOWN, NOR WOULD IT CONTINUE THE DISTRIBUTION OF LAND TITLES UNDER THE AGRARIAN REFORM PROGRAM AS THIS GOVERNMENT HAS DONE.

9. LETTER FROM SENATOR KENNEDY. PINOCHET SAID HE WAS IN RECEIPT OF A VERY TOUGH LETTER FROM SENATOR KENNEDY ON HUMAN RIGHTS MATTERS AND INTENDED TO RESPOND IN KIND.

10. VISIT OF MEXICAN FOREIGN MINISTER RABASA. I EXPRESSED VIEW THAT RABASA VISIT HAD BEEN BENEFICIAL TO CHILE AS WELL AS MEXICO. PINOCHET SAID HE THOUGHT SO. HE NOTED RABASA HAD COME WITH A SERIES OF REQUESTS RATHER THAN DEMANDS. SINCE, PRIOR TO RABASA'S ARRIVAL, PINOCHET HAD ALREADY AUTHORIZED HIS PEOPLE TO GIVE ASSURANCES THAT ALL ASYLEES IN FOREIGN EMBASSIES WOULD BE OUT WITHIN 20 DAYS, HE SAW NO REASON NOT TO AGREE TO ALLOW THOSE IN MEXICAN EMBASSY TO DEPART IMMEDIATELY. IN RETURN GOC NOW HAS ASSURANCES THAT MEXICO WILL MAKE DELIVERIES OF FERTILIZER, SULFUR, SUGAR, ETC., AND WILL TAKE STEPS TO CUT DOWN THE TALK AGAINST CHILE.

11. LETELIER CASE. I SAID I THOUGHT THE ARRANGEMENT WORKED OUT WITH RABASA TO EFFECT THAT IF ALMEYDA FOUND INNOCENT HE WOULD BE FREE TO GO TO MEXICO WAS A VERY GOOD FORMULA. I MENTIONED SIGNIFICANT INTEREST IN U.S. IN SITUATION OF ORLANDO LETELIER BASED ON FACT THAT MANY PEOPLE KNOW HIM FROM HIS TOUR
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 04 SANTIA 03154 042239Z

AS AMBASSADOR IN WASHINGTON AND FACT THAT HE HAS A SON WHO IS A U.S. CITIZEN. I SAID I ASSUMED THE ALMEYDA FORMULA WOULD ALSO BE APPLICABLE TO LETELIER. PINOCHET SAID IT WAS COMPLETELY APPLICABLE. IF LETELIER IS ACQUITTED, HE IS FREE TO GO WHERE HE WISHES, AS ARE THE OTHER DEFENDANTS.

12. PINOCHET CONCLUDED BY COMMENTING THAT MEMBERS OF GOC ARE NOT INHUMANE. PEOPLE LIKE ALMEYDA AND LETELIER HOLD ONE SET OF BELIEFS AND IDEAS, WHILE JUNTA MEMBERS HOLD ANOTHER. PINOCHET SAID HE HAPPENED TO THINK THE DEFENDANTS' IDEAS WERE WRONG. BUT IN ABSOLUTE TERMS, WHO IS TO SAY? IN ANY CASE, THEIR IDEAS AND BELIEFS ARE NOT AT ISSUE. THOSE ACQUITTED WILL BE FREE TO DEPART CHILE.

13. TO SUM UP FOREGOING COMMENTS, ELICITED BY MY QUESTIONS,

I TOLD PINOCHET I WOULD TAKE BACK TO U.S. FROM HIM A MESSAGE OF OPTIMISM REGARDING GOVERNMENT'S ECONOMIC AND OTHER PROSPECTS, AND OF HIS INTENTION THAT CHILE WOULD ADHERE TO HUMAN RIGHTS STANDARDS AND PURSUE ENLIGHTENED SOCIAL OBJECTIVES. HE NODDED AFFIRMATIVELY.

14. WE DO NOT KNOW WHETHER THE RABASA FORMULA REGARDING CLODOMIRO ALMEYDA INVOLVES ANY EXPRESSED OR IMPLIED COMMITMENT TO ACQUIT ALMEYDA OR TO SUSPEND HIS SENTENCE IF HE IS CONVICTED. HOWEVER, I THINK IT USEFUL TO HAVE SUGGESTED THAT IF ANY TYPE OF CLEMENCY IS TO BE APPLIED TO ALMEYDA, WE HAVE AN INTEREST IN EQUAL TREATMENT FOR LETELIER.POPPER

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: JUNTA, PRESIDENT, ECONOMIC CONDITIONS, MILITARY ASSISTANCE, HUMAN RIGHTS, ECONOMIC REPORTS, ECONOMIC PROGRAMS, FOREIGN ASSISTANCE, POLITICAL PRISONERS, PRISONERS RELEASE, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, AMBASSADORS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 JUN 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: cunninfx
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974SANTIA03154
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740142-0847, D740141-1032
From: SANTIAGO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740676/aaaacnzz.tel
Line Count: 181
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: cunninfx
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 18 SEP 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <18 SEP 2002 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <13 FEB 2003 by cunninfx>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PINOCHET VIEWS
TAGS: PFOR, CI, US, (LETELIER, ORLANDO), (PINOCHET), (ALMEYDA), (LETELIER), (PENOCHE UGARTE, AUGUSTO), (ALMEYDA, CLODOMIRO)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005